

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03303 291531Z

21

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06 /030 W

----- 011450

R 291335Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2607

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP (CLARK, DICK)

SUBJECT: CODEL CLARK IN SOUTH AFRICA

REF: (A) STATE 184743; (B) PRETORIA 3139 (NOTAL); (C) PRETORIA 3271

1. CODEL FOLLOWED SCHEDULES AUGUST 22-23 AND 26-27 ESSENTIALLY AS OUTLINED IN REFTEL B. SOWETO TOUR SWITCHED TO MRONING 27, WITH SENATOR SKIPPING TWO AFTERNOON APPOINTMENTS (KEPT BY STAFF) IN ORDER TO RETURN TO PRETORIA FOR MEETING WITH FONMIN MULLER AT 1430. IN ACCORDANCE WITH CODEL WISHES (REFTEL A), MISSION OFFICERS PARTICIPATED ONLY IN FUNCTIONS HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR AND CONGEN HOHANNESBURG.

2. AIRPORT MEETING WITH PRESS AT DEPARTURE AUGUST 27 WELL ATTENDED AND LIVELY, AS REPORTED REFTEL C. CLIPS FROM TRANSVALER AND PRETORIA NEWS POUCHED TO AF/S.

3. CODEL HAD OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH A SPECTRUM OF LIBERAL SOUTH AFRICAN WHITE POLITICAL FIGURES, GAINING INSIGHTS NOT ONLY INTO

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PAGE 02 PRETOR 03303 291531Z

PROGRAMS AND POLICIES THEY ADVOCATE, BUT ALSO LIMITATIONS ON THEIR

ABILITY TO INFLUENCE POLITICAL DECISIONS BECAUSE THEY REPRESENT SUCH A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE ELECTORATE. AS ONE POINTED OUT TO SENATOR, NATIONALISTS ARE NOW MORE THAN OEVER CONVINCED VORSTER IS ON RIGHT TRACK, THEIR MORAL, RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL BELIEFS REINFORCED BY ACCEPTANCE OF HIS ROLE BY OTHER AFRICAN STATES IN THE RHODESIAN QUESTIONS. LIBERALS LOOK FOR NO SIGNIFICANT DEFECTIONS FROM NATIONALISTS TOWARD MORE LIBERAL INTERNAL POLICIES. THEY ALSO NOTED THAT SHOULD CONDITIONS ALONG SAG FRONTIERS DETERIORATE IN WAY THAT WOULD FURTHER AROUSE WHITE FEARS, ATTITUDES TOWARD DOMESTIC RACIAL ISSUES WOULD RAPIDLY HARDEN EVEN MORE.

4. SOWETO LUNCHEON WITH CROSS-SECTION BLACK OPINION PROVED MOST USEFUL, ACCORDING TO CODEL. STRONG CONFLICTING OPINIONS EXPRESSED ABOUT ROLE US COULD BEST PLAY, THOUGH MOST FELT THAT SOME FORM OF ADDITIONAL PRESSURES OR EFFORTS WOULD BE HELPFUL.

5. DUE TO EXTENDED DISCUSSION AT SOWETO LUNCHEON, SENATOR ARRIVED FOR MEETING WITH FONMIN VERY LATE AND SPENT ONLY SHORT TIME WITH HIM. MOST OF CONVERSATION FOCUSSED ON RHODESIA TALKS. MULLER TOLD SENATOR THAT EFFORT TO BRING THE TWO SIDES TOGETHER WOULD CONTINUE. SAG IN TOUCH WITH KAUNDA ON HOW BEST TO COORDINATE EFFORTS. MULLER SAID HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT SETTLEMENT SO IMPORTANT TO KAUNDA THAT ZAMBIANS WERE PREPARED TO PUSH ANC TO POINT WHERE SITHOLE AND CHICKEREMA WOULD BE SIDELINES IN ORDER FOR ANC TO PURSUE TALKS WITH SMITH. ON NAMIBIA, MULLER INDICATED SOUTH AFRICA WANTED TO MOVE STEADILY FORWARD TOWARD SOLUTION THAT WOULD REFLECT WISHES OF ITS PEOPLE, BUT HE OFFERED NO SPECIFICS BEYOND MENTION OF SEPT 1 CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE. REGARDING SAG PARTICIPATION IN UNGA, MULLER GAVE NO INDICATION OF DECISION HAVING BEEN TAKEN.

6. SENATOR CLARK COMMENTED THAT BRIEF EXPOSURE OF THIS VISIT HAD SHOWN SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION TO BE MUCH MORE COMPLEX THAN HE THOUGHT AND DESERVING OF FURTHER INTENSIVE STUDY. HE SAID HIS REPORT WOULD RECORD OBSERVATIONS BUT RESERVE RECOMMENDATIONS PENDING OPPORTUNITY GO DEEPER INTO PROBLEMS. HE INDICATED THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO RETURN NEXT YEAR AND SPEND A WEEK GETTING A MUCH BROADER EXPOSURE.

BOWDLER

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PAGE 03 PRETOR 03303 291531Z

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